

HABS No. IA-168

C. B. Gruwell and Company Building
Iowa Penn Central Regional Shopping Center
206 High Ave. West
Oskaloosa
Mahaska County
Iowa

HABS
IOWA
62-OSK,
3-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

C. B. GRUWELL AND COMPANY BUILDING

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Location: 206 High Ave. West, Oskaloosa, Mahaska County, Iowa.

Description: Masonry load-bearing walls with brick and clapboard front. Measures approximately 20' x 100'. First-floor plan has a display area and office in the front and storage in the rear. Two-bedroom apartment on second floor.

Plate-window and clapboard covering added to oriel in 1960s. Storefront of diagonally recessed aluminum door and plate-glass window also an alteration.

History: The 1887 city directory indicates that C. B. Gruwell and Company occupied this site, which was probably soon after construction of this building. This was a drugstore which carried a variety of merchandise, including jewelry. Currently the "Photo-Hobby Shop."

Sources: Iowa Site Inventory; Oskaloosa city directories; case report information; salvage field survey conducted May 1984; building conditions survey conducted April 1983; county deed records.

Project

Information: Plans call for demolition of this building in fall 1984. This historical documentation was completed by the Urban Programming Corporation during May, June and July of 1984. It is one portion of the historical/architectural recordation of seven city blocks in downtown Oskaloosa prepared for the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS). For more information, see HABS No. IA-147.

This documentation was completed under the direction of Gregory D. Kendrick, Historian for the National Park Service, Rocky Mountain Regional Office. Project supervisor was Peter Sortino of the Urban Programming Corporation. Historical documentation was completed by Diane Bowman of the Urban Programming Corporation. Photographer for the project was David W. Preston of St. Louis, Missouri.